

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-21. (Canceled).

22. (New) A composition, comprising:

at least one arginine compound chosen from L-arginine amino acids and physiologically acceptable salts thereof,

at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound, and

at least one antioxidant or at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals,

wherein said composition is in a form suitable for oral administration selected from pills, powders, liquids, and capsules.

23. (New) A composition of claim 22, wherein the composition excludes amino acids other than the at least one arginine compound, and wherein the at least one arginine compound is not a precursor of nitric oxide.

24. (New) A composition of claim 22, wherein the composition is in a daily dosage form providing an amount of the at least one arginine compound in an amount ranging from about 1 to about 12 grams per daily dosage.

25. (New) A composition of claim 24, wherein the amount ranges from 1 to 3 grams per daily dosage.

26. (New) A composition of claim 24, wherein the at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound is a compound which enhances nitric oxide availability.

27. (New) A composition of claim 26, wherein the form suitable for oral administration is a pill.

28. (New) A composition of claim 22, wherein the physiologically acceptable salts of L-arginine are selected from hydrochloride salts and glutamate salts.

29. (New) A composition of claim 22, wherein the at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals is a superoxide dismutase.

30. (New) A composition of claim 22, wherein the at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals is an antioxidant.

31. (New) A composition of claim 30, wherein the antioxidant is a sulfhydryl-containing compound.

32. (New) A method comprising administering a composition comprising:
at least one arginine compound selected from L-arginine amino acids and
physiologically acceptable salts thereof, and

at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than
the at least one arginine compound,

wherein the composition is in a form suitable for oral administration selected from pills,
powders, liquids, and capsules.

33. (New) A method of claim 32, wherein the composition excludes amino acids
other than the at least one arginine compound, and wherein the at least one arginine
compound is not a precursor of nitric oxide.

34. (New) A method of claim 32, wherein the at least one arginine compound
represents the greatest percentage by weight when compared to the percentage weight of each
other active ingredient in the composition.

35. (New) A method of claim 34, wherein the at least one arginine compound
represents at least about 10% by weight of the active ingredients.

36. (New) A method of claim 34, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 25% by weight of the active ingredients.

37. (New) A method of claim 34, wherein the composition comprises at least about 75 mol % of the at least one arginine compound.

38. (New) A method of claim 32, wherein the composition is part of a predetermined regimen that provides a daily amount ranging from 1 to 12 grams of the at least one arginine compound.

39. (New) A method of enhancing nitric oxide production, comprising administering a composition comprising:

at least one arginine compound selected from L-arginine amino acids and physiologically acceptable salts thereof,

at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound, and

at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals, wherein the composition is in a form suitable for oral administration selected from pills, powders, liquids, and capsules.

40. (New) A method of claim 39, wherein the composition excludes amino acids other than the at least one arginine compound, and wherein the at least one arginine compound is not a precursor of nitric oxide.

41. (New) A method of claim 39, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents the greatest percentage by weight when compared to the percentage weight of each other active ingredient in the composition.

42. (New) A method of claim 41, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 10% by weight of the active ingredients.

43. (New) A method of claim 41, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 25% by weight of the active ingredients.

44. (New) A method of claim 41, wherein the composition comprises at least about 75 mol % of the at least one arginine compound.

45. (New) A method of claim 39, wherein the composition further comprises at least one partially oxidized nitrogen compound.

46. (New) A method of claim 45, wherein the at least one partially oxidized nitrogen compound is a nitroso compound.

47. (New) A method of claim 39, wherein the composition is in a daily dosage form providing an amount of the at least one arginine compound in an amount ranging from about 1 to about 12 grams per daily dosage.

48. (New) A method of claim 47, wherein the amount ranges from 1 to 3 grams per daily dosage.

49. (New) A method of claim 47, wherein the at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound is a compound which enhances nitric oxide availability.

50. (New) A method of claim 49, wherein the form suitable for oral administration is a pill.

51. (New) A method of claim 39, wherein the physiologically acceptable salts of L-arginine are selected from hydrochloride salts and glutamate salts.

52. (New) A method of claim 39, wherein the at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals is a superoxide dismutase.

53. (New) A method of claim 39, wherein the at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals is an antioxidant.

54. (New) A method of claim 53, wherein the antioxidant is a sulfhydryl-containing compound.

55. (New) A method of enhancing nitric oxide production, comprising administering a composition comprising:
at least one arginine compound selected from L-arginine amino acids and physiologically acceptable salts thereof, wherein the at least one arginine compound is present in an amount sufficient to enhance nitric oxide availability and

at least one grape skin extract,
wherein the composition is in a form suitable for oral administration selected from pills, tablets, powders, and capsules.

56. (New) A method of claim 55, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents the greatest percentage by weight when compared to the percentage weight of each other active ingredient in the composition.

57. (New) A method of claim 56, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 10% by weight of the active ingredients.

58. (New) A method of claim 56, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 25% by weight of the active ingredients.

59. (New) A method of claim 56, wherein the composition comprises at least about 75 mol % of the at least one arginine compound.

60. (New) A method of claim 55, wherein the composition further comprises at least one additional ingredient that enhances production of nitric oxide or that inhibits degradation of nitric oxide.

61. (New) An article of manufacture, comprising a composition comprising:
at least one arginine compound selected from L-arginine amino acids and physiologically acceptable salts thereof, and
at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound,

wherein the composition is in a form suitable for oral administration selected from pills, powders, liquids, and capsules.

62. (New) An article of claim 61, wherein the composition excludes amino acids other than the at least one arginine compound, wherein the at least one arginine compound is not a precursor of nitric oxide.

63. (New) An article of claim 61, wherein the composition is part of a predetermined regimen that provides a daily amount ranging from 1 to 12 grams of the at least one arginine compound.

64. (New) An article of manufacture, comprising a composition comprising:
at least one arginine compound selected from L-arginine amino acids and physiologically acceptable salts thereof,

at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound, and

at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals, wherein the composition is in a form suitable for oral administration selected from pills, powders, liquids, and capsules.

65. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the composition excludes amino acids other than the at least one arginine compound, wherein the at least one arginine compound is not a precursor of nitric oxide.

66. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the at least one arginine compound is the predominant active ingredient in the composition.

67. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents the greatest percentage by weight when compared to the percentage weight of each other active ingredient in the composition.

68. (New) An article of claim 67, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 10% by weight of the active ingredients.

69. (New) An article of claim 67, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 25% by weight of the active ingredients.

70. (New) An article of claim 67, wherein the composition comprises at least about 75 mol % of the at least one arginine compound.

71. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the composition further comprises at least one partially oxidized nitrogen compound.

72. (New) An article of claim 71, wherein the at least one partially oxidized nitrogen compound is a nitroso compound.

73. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the composition is in a daily dosage form providing an amount of the at least one arginine compound in an amount ranging from about 1 to about 12 grams per daily dosage.

74. (New) An article of claim 73, wherein the amount ranges from 1 to 3 grams per daily dosage.

75. (New) An article of claim 73, wherein the at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound is a compound which enhances nitric oxide availability.

76. (New) An article of claim 75, wherein the form suitable for oral administration is a pill.

77. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the physiologically acceptable salts of L-arginine are selected from hydrochloride salts and glutamate salts.

78. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals is a superoxide dismutase.

79. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals is an antioxidant.

80. (New) An article of claim 64, wherein the antioxidant is a sulfhydryl-containing compound.

81. (New) An article of manufacture, comprising a composition comprising:
at least one arginine compound selected from L-arginine amino acids and
physiologically acceptable salts thereof, wherein the at least one arginine compound is present
in an amount sufficient to enhance nitric oxide availability and

at least one grape skin extract,
wherein the composition is in a form suitable for oral administration selected from pills,
tablets, powders, and capsules.

82. (New) An article of claim 81, wherein the at least one arginine compound
represents the greatest percentage by weight when compared to the percentage weight of each
other active ingredient in the composition.

83. (New) An article of claim 82, wherein the at least one arginine compound
represents at least about 10% by weight of the active ingredients.

84. (New) An article of claim 82, wherein the at least one arginine compound
represents at least about 25% by weight of the active ingredients.

85. (New) An article of claim 82, wherein the composition comprises at least
about 75 mol % of the at least one arginine compound.

86. (New) An article of claim 81, further comprising at least one additional
ingredient that enhances production of nitric oxide or that inhibits degradation of nitric oxide.

87. (New) A method of enhancing endothelial nitric oxide, comprising
administering to a human host a dietary supplement comprising:

at least one arginine compound selected from L-arginine amino acids and physiologically acceptable salts thereof,

wherein the at least one arginine compound represents the greatest percentage by weight when compared to the percentage weight of each other active ingredient in the dietary supplement.

88. (New) A method of claim 87, wherein the dietary supplement excludes amino acids other than the at least one arginine compound, and wherein the at least one arginine compound is not a precursor of nitric oxide.

89. (New) A method of claim 87, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents the greatest percentage by weight in the dietary supplement.

90. (New) A method of claim 89, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 10% by weight of the active ingredients.

91. (New) A method of claim 89, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 25% by weight of the active ingredients.

92. (New) A method of claim 89, wherein the dietary supplement comprises at least about 75 mol % of the at least one arginine compound.

93. (New) A method of claim 89, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 2.25% by weight of the active ingredients.

94. (New) A method of claim 87, wherein the dietary supplement further comprises at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound.

95. (New) A method of enhancing endothelial nitric oxide, comprising administering to a human host a dietary supplement comprising:

at least one arginine compound select from L-arginine amino acids and physiologically acceptable salts thereof,

at least one additional compound associated with production of nitric oxide other than the at least one arginine compound, and

at least one compound that prevents the production of oxygen-derived free radicals.

96. (New) A method of claim 95, wherein the dietary supplement excludes amino acids other than the at least one arginine compound, wherein the at least one arginine compound is not a precursor of nitric oxide.

97. (New) A method of claim 95, wherein the at least one arginine compound is the predominant active ingredient in the dietary supplement.

98. (New) A method of claim 97, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents the greatest percentage by weight when compared to the percentage weight of each other active ingredient in said composition.

99. (New) A method of claim 97, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 25% by weight of the active ingredients.

100. (New) A method of claim 97, wherein the dietary supplement comprises at least about 75 mol % of the at least one arginine compound.

101. (New) A dietary supplement, the improvement comprising at least one arginine compound selected from L-arginine amino acids and physiologically acceptable salts thereof, wherein the at least one arginine compound in an amount sufficient to enhance endothelial nitric oxide.

102. (New) A dietary supplement of claim 101, wherein the amount is at least 1 gram.

103. (New) A dietary supplement of claim 102, wherein the amount of the at least one arginine compound is the predominant active ingredient in the dietary supplement.

104. (New) A composition of claim 103, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents the greatest percentage by weight when compared to the percentage weight of each other active ingredient in the dietary supplement.

105. (New) A composition of claim 103, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 10% by weight of the active ingredients.

106. (New) A composition of claim 103, wherein the at least one arginine compound represents at least about 25% by weight of the active ingredients.

107. (New) A composition of claim 103, wherein the dietary supplement comprises at least about 75 mol % of the at least one arginine compound.